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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,208	02/14/2002	Shinya Adachi	34409	7063

116 7590 11/29/2007

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EXAMINER	
TO, TUAN C	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3663	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
11/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/075,208	ADACHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tuan C. To	3663	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 October 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,10,11,18-25 and 37-43* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,10,11,18-25 and 37-43* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *06 May 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-3, 10, 11, 18-25, and 37-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a) as being anticipated by Ito et al. (US 6249740B1).

With regard to claims 1, 10, 19, 38, and 42, Ito et al. directs to a communication navigation system/method, in which data is transmitted and receive between a navigation base apparatus (150) and a vehicle navigation apparatus (100). The Ito et al.'s base navigation apparatus (150), which is similar to the claimed information provider, including the communication control section (151) for transmitting an extracted location data back to the navigation apparatus (100) (Ito et al., abstract), wherein said data is herein described as geographical data that uses string of coordinates (longitude and latitude) to represent the road shape (Ito et al., column 9, lines 18-25; lines 38-50). In addition, the relative data, which is the distance data from a specific point, is also disclosed in Ito et al. (Ito et al., column 11, lines37-41). The navigation apparatus (100)

has been disclosed in Ito et al. as similar as the claimed party that receives on-road location information by the performance of shape matching (Ito et al., column 18, lines 9-21) in which a road shape data is used to identify road section on the a digital map and uses said relative data to identify on-road location in said road section (Ito et al., column 19, lines 50-65).

As to claim 2, in Ito et al., a string of coordinates such as longitude and latitude are used along with other data to describe a road shape (Ito et al., figure 7, chart (B); column 19, lines 54-57).

As to claim 3, in Into et al., a distance data from a specific point in a road section (road length) are used (Ito et al., column 17, lines 39-44).

As to claim 11, Ito et al., a string of coordinates such as longitude and latitude are used along with other data to describe a road shape (Ito et al., figure 7, chart (B); column 19, lines 54-57).

As to claim 18, the navigation apparatus receives the road data along with navigation data transmitted from the navigation base apparatus (150) via the receiving section (108). Although Ito et al. do not mention about "a location information converter", however, such feature is inherently included since the data received must be converted to a road shape prior they are processes by the processing section (101) (Ito et al., figure 1).

As to claim 20, Ito et al. further teaches: "coordinate string represents a geometrically pattern on a digital map" (Ito et al., figure 9).

As to claim 21, Ito et al. further teaches: "coordinate string indicating a region including a position on which an event occurs" (Ito et al., figure 11, the road data include geographic coordinates of each node point).

As to claim 22, Ito et al. further teaches: "said shape data includes a coordinate string indicating a border of a region in which an event occurs" (Ito et al., figure 14, node C2, C3, C 4, Cp with R3, R4, Ra, Rb form a border of a region).

As to claim 23, Ito et al. further teaches: "said shape data includes a coordinate string indicating points a predetermined intervals" (Ito et al., figure 6, a plurality of points are shown at predetermined intervals that form R3 and R4).

As to claim 24, Ito et al. further teaches "wherein content of said shape data is changeable in accordance with a situation of a region indicated by said shape data" (Ito et al. (Ito et al., figure 7, chart B).

As to claim 25, the navigation apparatus (100) performs map matching using shape data in order to identify the location (Ito et al., column 18, lines 9-21).

As to claim 37, the navigation apparatus receives the road data along with navigation data transmitted from the navigation base apparatus (150) via the receiving section (108). Although Ito et al. do not mention about "a location information converter", however, such feature is inherently included since the data received must be converted to a road shape prior they are processes by the processing section (101) (Ito et al., figure 1).

As to claim 38, in Ito et al., a string of coordinates such as longitude and latitude are used along with other data to describe a road shape (Ito et al., figure 7, chart (B); column 19, lines 54-57).

As to claim 39, Ito et al. further teaches: "coordinate included in said coordinate string are absolute coordinates" (Ito et al., column 10, lines 24-28).

As to claim 40, Ito et al. further teaches: "a part of coordinates included in said coordinate string is relative coordinate" (Ito et al., column 10, lines 30-38).

As to claim 41, Ito et al. further teaches: "coordinate string is a coordinate chain" (Ito et al., figure 11).

As to claim 43, the navigation base apparatus (150) transmits a type and level of an event adding to said shape data (Ito et al. figure 7, chart D).

Response to Arguments

In response to the applicant's request for continued examination has been fully considered, however, the application cannot be patentable over the cited prior art.

The applicant amended to claims 1, 10, and 19 by adding the phrase "of an event" after "location information". However, the change does not make the claims distinct patentably over the cited prior art.

The reference to Ito et al. has been provided as teaching a location transmission system/method in which the communication control section (151) is provided to transmit on-road location information of an event by using road shape data. As shown in figure 1, the communication control section (151) is equipped with modem and terminal adapter in order to receive and transmit on-road location information of an event to the

vehicle navigation apparatus (100). Such on-road location information, for instant map data and road data, are stored in the data base (153). The road shape data is used when transmitting such the information to the navigation apparatus (100) (Ito et al., column 9, lines 18-25; lines 38-50).

Ito et al. further teaches the limitation: "coordinate string indicating a region including a position on which an event occurs" (Ito et al., figure 11, column 19, lines 57-65, the road data include geographic coordinates of each node point; the vehicle position on the road is also indicated), and "said shape data includes a coordinate string indicating a border of a region in which an event occurs" (Ito et al., figure 14, node C2, C3, C 4, Cp with R3, R4, Ra, Rb form a border of a region).

Conclusions

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

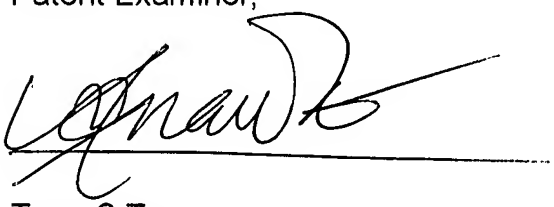
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner,



Tuan C To

November 26, 2007